**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A connection cable comprising:

an optical cable; and,

an integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical cable, the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching electrical connector on a target device;

wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

2. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 additionally comprising:

a second integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching electrical connector on a second target device.

3. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable consists of a single optical fiber.

4. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable consists of multiple optical fibers.

5. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is at least one of the following:

digital data transmission;

analog data transmission.

6. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the matching electrical connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:

universal serial bus (USB) protocol;

USB 2;

IEEE 1394 (Firewire);

Firewire 800;

Ethernet;

Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);

Infiniband;

a proprietary system interconnection.

7. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:

synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;

optical fibre channel protocol;

Ethernet protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a connection cable comprising the following step:

permanently fixing an integrated electrical connector to an optical cable, the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching electrical connector on a target device;

wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

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9. (Original) A method as in claim 8 additionally comprising the following step:

permanently fixing a second integrated electrical connector to the optical cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching electrical connector on a second target device.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of a single optical fiber.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of multiple optical fibers.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is at least one of the following:

digital data transmission;

analog data transmission.

13. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the matching electrical connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:

universal serial bus (USB) protocol;

USB 2;

IEEE 1394 (Firewire);

Firewire 800;

Ethernet;

Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);

Infiniband;

a proprietary system interconnection.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:

synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;

optical fibre channel protocol;

Ethernet protocol.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting two target devices comprising the following steps:

plugging a first integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to an optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a first target device; and,

plugging a second integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to the optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a second target device;

wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

16. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists of a single optical fiber.

17. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists of multiple optical fibers.

18. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is at least one of the following:

digital data transmission;

analog data transmission.

19. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the matching electrical connector is compatible with at least on of the following protocols:

universal serial bus (USB) protocol;

USB 2;

IEEE 1394 (Firewire);

Firewire 800;

Ethernet;

Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);

Infiniband;

a proprietary system interconnection.

20. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:

synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;

optical fibre channel protocol;

Ethernet protocol.